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Reserve

NORTH CAROLINA



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No. 121

RALEIGH, N. C.

NOVEMBER 6, 1952

Prices Received Show Downward Trend On State, U.S. Levels

N. C. Prices

U. S. Prices

The "All Farm Products" index of prices received by North Carolina farmers at local markets dropped 9 points during the month ended October 15. All commodity indexes except tobacco and dairy products declined during the month. The October 15 "All Farm Products" index of 324 compares with an index of 334 a year ago and an index of 330 on October 15, 1950 (See table on page 2).

The grains commodity index declined three points owing to a drop of 13 cents per bushel in corn prices. Wheat and oats made slight gains, barley was unchanged and rye advanced 25 cents per bushel. The decrease in corn prices was more than enough to offset gains made by the other grains.

(Continued on Page 2)

Price declines during the month ended October 15 for meat animals, cotton, corn, chickens, and potatoes, offset only in part by higher prices for milk, eggs, and fruits, were mainly responsible for a 6 point -- 2 percent -- drop in the Index of Prices Received by U. S. Farmers to 282.

During the same period, lower average prices paid by farmers for feed, food, feeder livestock, and motor supplies, together with a continued down-

(Continued on Page 2)

Commercial Hatcheries Set New Record High For September, Producing 3,583,000 Chicks

Commercial hatcheries in North Carolina produced 3,583,000 chicks in September. This is a new record high for the month, exceeding the September 1951 output by almost 7 percent. This is the first time September hatchings have exceeded those for August since estimates were begun in 1945. During the first nine months of 1952, Tarheel hatcheries produced 50,103,000 chicks--6 percent more than the 47,088,000 hatched during the same period of last year.

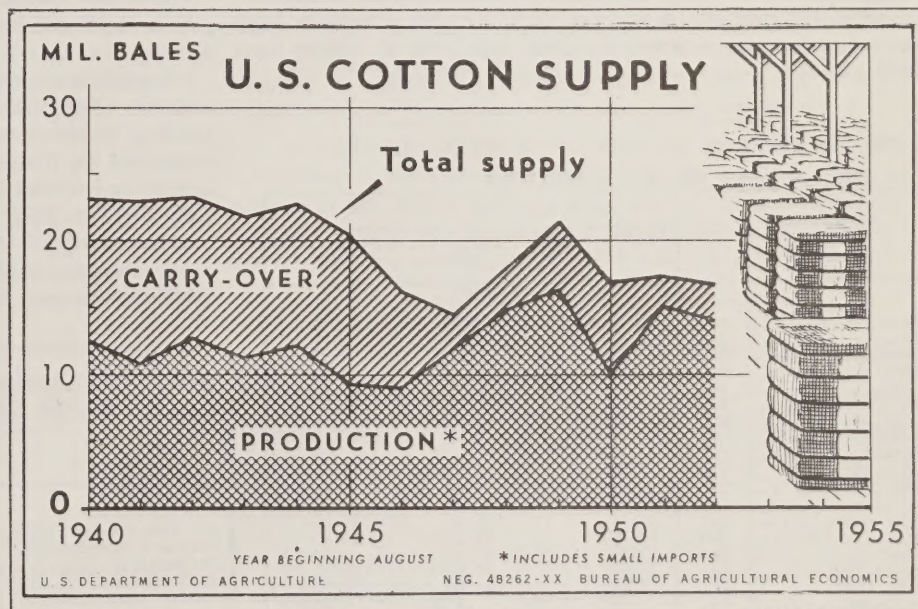
Tar Heel Farm Wage Rate Averaging \$5 Per Day

Farm operators in North Carolina are paying an average of \$5 per day (without room and board) for hired labor this month, as compared with an average of \$4.75 per day in October of last year.

(Continued on Page 4)

DAILY AND HOURLY FARM WAGE RATES, N. C. AND SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES COMPARED

AREA AND CLASSIFICATION	OCT. 1 1951	OCT. 1 1952
NORTH CAROLINA		
PER DAY: WITH HOUSE.....	\$4.00	\$4.30
WITHOUT BOARD OR ROOM..	4.75	5.00
PER HOUR:		
WITH HOUSE, NO MEALS....	.55	.59
WITHOUT BOARD OR ROOM..	.55	.59
SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES		
PER DAY: WITH HOUSE.....	3.85	4.00
WITHOUT BOARD OR ROOM..	4.65	4.70
PER HOUR:		
WITH HOUSE, NO MEALS....	.58	.59
WITHOUT BOARD OR ROOM..	.58	.59



The supply of cotton in the United States in the 1951-52 season was about 500 thousand bales larger than in 1950-51. The beginning carryover on August 1, 1951 was the smallest since 1925 and 4.6 million bales smaller than a year earlier, but production from the 1951 crop was 5.1 million bales larger than production from the 1950 crop.

The ending carryover August 1, 1952 was about a half million bales larger than beginning stocks. The estimate of the 1952 crop, as of September 1, indicates a decrease from 1951 of about 1.3 million bales in production and the carryover on August 1, 1953 is expected to be the same as it was on August 1, 1952.

NORTH CAROLINA PRICES

(Continued)

The decrease of over two cents per pound in cotton prices resulted in the cotton and cottonseed index dropping 14 points.

The tobacco index increased three points as the result of an increase of two cents per pound for Type 12 tobacco. This increase was sufficient to off-set decreases in prices for Types 11 and 13.

The meat animals index decreased 28 points due to lower prices for all animals making up the index. Beef cattle and veal calves decreased \$2.00 and \$3.00, respectively. This is the sixth consecutive month in which beef cattle prices have declined.

The poultry index decreased 11 points owing to lower prices for both chickens and eggs.

The dairy products index increased three points as the result of higher prices for milk and butterfat.

The ratio of prices received by North Carolina farmers to prices paid by U. S. farmers increased one point during the month ended October 15.

UNITED STATES PRICES

(Continued)

turn in seasonally adjusted farm wage rates, lowered the Index of Prices Paid, Interest, Taxes, and Wage Rates to 282-3 points or 1 percent down from the revised September level.

With both the Index of Prices Received by Farmers and the Index of Prices Paid, Interest, Taxes, and Wage Rates at 282 percent of the 1910-14 level, the Parity Ratio stands at an even 100 percent, down one point from September, at the same level as the average for 1950, but 7 points below the 1951 average.

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS OCTOBER 15, 1952

WITH COMPARISONS

COMMODITY	UNIT	NORTH CAROLINA		U. S.
		SEPT. 15	OCT. 15	OCT. 15
		1952	1952	1952
- DOLLARS -				
CORN.....	BU.	1.94	1.81	1.53
WHEAT.....	BU.	2.04	2.05	2.07
OATS.....	BU.	1.00	1.07	.828
BARLEY.....	BU.	1.50	1.50	1.42
RYE.....	BU.	2.45	2.70	1.74
SOYBEANS.....	BU.	2.67	2.55	2.71
COWPEAS.....	BU.	4.50	4.00	-
PEANUTS.....	LB.	.125	.12	.111
COTTON.....	LB.	.399	.377	.37
COTTONSEED.....	TON	70.00	73.00	70.70
WOOL.....	LB.	.51	.51	.504
HOGS.....	CWT.	19.80	19.40	18.60
BEEF CATTLE.....	CWT.	20.00	18.00	22.00
VEAL CALVES.....	CWT.	25.30	22.30	23.80
SHEEP.....	CWT.	11.50	10.50	7.73
LAMBS.....	CWT.	26.50	26.00	22.20
MILK COWS.....	HEAD	164.00	161.00	228.00
CHICKENS.....	LB.	.298	.272	.242
EGGS.....	DOZ.	.58	.588	.504
MILK, WHLSE.....	CWT.	5.95 <u>a/</u>	6.20 <u>b/</u>	5.30
RETAIL.....	QT.	.217	.219	.212
BUTTER.....	LB.	.57	.56	-
BUTTERFAT.....	LB.	.60	.60	73.5
HAY, ALL BALED.....	TON	32.50	33.30	25.60
POTATOES.....	BU.	3.00	2.75	2.11
SWEET POTATOES.....	BU.	3.55	3.20	2.94
APPLES COMMERCIAL.....	BU.	2.00	1.90	2.72
LESPEDeza SEED.....	CWT.	16.60	16.60	16.50
KOREAN.....	CWT.	15.50	15.50	-
KOBE.....	CWT.	17.50	17.50	-
COM. & TENN. 76.....	CWT.	20.00	20.00	-
SERICEA.....	CWT.	22.00	22.00	-

a/ Revised b/ Preliminary

COMPARISON OF U. S. PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS
AND PARITY PRICES

COMMODITY	PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS		PARITY OR COMPARABLE PRICES		AVERAGE PRICES AS PERCENTAGE OF PARITY	
	SEPT. 15 1952	OCT. 15 1952	SEPT. 15 1952	OCT. 15 1952	SEPT. 15 1952	OCT. 15 1952
- DOLLARS -						
COTTON, LB.....	.392	.37	.345	.344	114	108
WHEAT, BU.....	2.09	2.07	2.46	2.45	85	84
CORN, BU.....	1.71	1.53	1.78	1.78	96	86
OATS, BU.....	.835	.828	.944c/	.944c/	88	88
BARLEY, BU.....	1.43	1.42	1.46c/	1.45c/	98	98
RYE, BU.....	1.73	1.74	1.67	1.66	104	105
BEEF CATTLE, CWT.	23.80	22.00	20.90	20.80	114	106
HOGS, CWT.....	19.10	18.60	21.30	21.10	90	88
LAMBS, CWT.....	24.10	22.20	23.00	22.80	105	97
CHICKENS, LB.....	.263	.242	.321	.319	82	76
EGGS, DOZ.....	.487	.504	.508c/	.507c/	86a/	85d/
MILK, WHLSE, CWT.	5.07a/	5.30b/	4.77	4.74	103a/	105a/

a/ Revised b/ Preliminary c/ Transitional parity, 85 percent (80 percent during 1951) of parity price computed under formula in use prior to Jan. 1, 1950.

d/ Percentage of seasonally adjusted prices to parity prices.

PLENTY OF ALFALFA SEEDS FOR NEXT YEAR

Clean alfalfa seed will be in abundant supply for 1953 plantings if current estimates are realized in this year's U. S. harvest, as it is estimated that the 1952 crop will break all previous records.

The current estimate for clean seed is 146,900,000 pounds -- 40 percent larger than last year's crop of 104,630,000 pounds, and 91 percent above the 1941-50 average of 76,884,000 pounds.

The record-crop estimate is based on the fact that yield per acre is estimated at the largest in 25 years, and that acreage is only 8 percent below the record of 1946.

Applications have been made in 19 states for the certification of 202,003 acres of alfalfa seed this year. Varieties leading in the number of acres for which certification was requested are Ranger with 110,370 acres, Buffalo with 30,893 acres, Ladak with 25,872 acres, Grim with 17,627 acres, and Atlantic with 4,218 acres.

Harvesting of the alfalfa seed is expected to be completed by the second week of November, with an estimated crop of 1,089,500 acres.

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES INDEX NUMBERS
(N.C. PRICES RECEIVED 1909-14 = 100 PERCENT)

COMMODITY	SEPT. 15 1952	OCT. 15 1952	OCT. 15 1951	OCT. 15 1950	OCT. 15 1949
NORTH CAROLINA INDEX NUMBERS					
ALL FARM PRODUCTS..	333*	324	334	930	275
COTTON & COTTONSEED	313	299	286	318	226
GRAINS.....	201	198	186	170	164
MEAT ANIMALS.....	381	353	426	385	331
POULTRY.....	286*	275	294	252	283
DAIRY PRODUCTS.....	250*	253	244	230	229
TOBACCO.....	396	399	456 b/	433	381
MISCELLANEOUS.....	311	290	249	209	216
RATIO OF PRICES RECEIVED TO PAID..	117	118	118	126	115
UNITED STATES INDEX NUMBERS					
PRICES RECEIVED....	288	282	296	268	243
PRICES PAID.....	285*	282	283	261	240
INTEREST & TAXES..	101	100	105	103	101
RATIO OF PRICES RECEIVED TO PAID..	101	100	105	103	101

a/ Ratio of N. C. prices received to U. S. prices paid.

b/ Types 11, 12, 13. *Revised.

OCTOBER 1 GRAIN STOCKS

CROP	NORTH CAROLINA						UNITED STATES					
	ON-FARM		OFF-FARM ^{1/}		TOTAL STOCKS		ON-FARM		OFF-FARM ^{1/}		TOTAL STOCKS	
	1951	1952	1951	1952	1951	1952	1951	1952	1951	1952	1951	1952
	THOUS. BUSHELS						THOUS. BUSHELS					
WHEAT.....	4,907	3,958	2,090	1,941	6,997	5,899	480,847	507,015	647,217	834,917	1,128,064	1,341,932
OATS.....	7,992	6,894	794	476	8,786	7,370	1,103,455	1,002,436	82,583	98,049	1,186,038	1,100,485
RYE.....	90	80	11	9	101	89	10,394	8,223	10,076	6,499	20,470	12,722
BARLEY.....	806	609	45	57	851	666	171,419	126,049	96,955	83,958	268,374	210,007
CORN..... ^{2/}	5,710	5,225	198	90	5,908	5,315	312,867	173,566	426,380	315,031	739,247	488,597
SORGHUM GRAIN ^{3/}	95	50	-	-	-	-	2/ 7,815	2/ 5,799	2/ 30,282	2/ 4,132	2/ 38,097	2/ 9,931
SOYBEANS.. ^{2/}	95	50	4	1	99	54	2,675	1,947	1,484	1,617	4,159	3,564

^{1/} Includes, in addition to stocks in Interior Mills, Elevators and Warehouses and Merchant Mills, Commercial stocks reported by Grain Branch, P. M. A., at terminals, and an estimate of those owned by C. C. C. which are in transit to ports, in bins and other storages under C. C. C. control. ^{2/} Old Crop ^{3/} Not published separately for North Carolina.

Grain Supplies Show Reduction

Total stocks of each individual type of grain in North Carolina on October 1 were below those of a year ago, according to recent information obtained from farmers and operators of off-farm storage facilities. Disappearance of grains in the State during the July-October quarter was fairly heavy because of the necessity for supplementing forage which was cut short in many areas by drought conditions.

For the Nation, stocks of 1,342 million bushels of wheat, second largest in history, were stored in all positions on October 1, 1952. This total is only 2 per cent less than that of October 1, 1942, and nearly a fifth more than a year ago. It also exceeds the 1952 production by 3 per cent, reflecting the large carryover of old wheat.

Oat stocks of over 1,100 million bushels were only slightly less than average for October 1, and 7 to 9 per cent smaller than in the last two years.

Rye stocks of 12.7 million bushels are the smallest for October 1 in the 10 years of record, while the current stocks of barley are placed at 210 million bushels as compared with 268.4 million in 1951.

A fairly large carryover of 489 million bushels of corn remained in all positions on October 1, 1952. The corn carryover has ranged from 123.5 million bushels in 1948 to 845 million in 1950. Of the 10 years of record, however, carryovers were larger than the current total only in the last three years.

Stocks of old soybeans in all positions on October 1 totaled 3.5 million bushels, a carryover of about a half million bushels less than last year but higher than October 1 of the three previous years.

MIXED FEEDS LOWER TO UNCHANGED
CORN TAKES FIVE-CENT JUMP IN STATE

With the exception of bran by-products, feed prices paid by North Carolina farmers as of October 15 were either unchanged or 5 to 20 cents below the September 15 average. Among the bran by-products, only corn meal showed an increase -- jumping from \$4.90 in September to \$4.95 in October.

Most of the decrease recorded was in mixed dairy feed -- with 29 per cent protein realizing the sharpest drop of 20 cents. Soybean meal, 18 per cent protein mixed dairy feed, bran and middlings remained unchanged over September.

SEPTEMBER MILK PRODUCTION EXCEEDS
LAST YEAR BY NINE MILLION POUNDS

Tarheel dairy farmers produced 9 million more pounds of milk in September than they did in the same month of 1951.

This year's total for September was 144 million pounds, compared with 135 million in September, 1951, and 130 million on the 10-year (1941-50) average. September's figure was 8 million pounds below the figure for August of this year.

An estimated increase in number of milk cows in the State of 1,000 above the September, 1951, figure of 358,000 is partly responsible for the boost in production. Other contributing factors are the September, 1952, average production per cow of 390 pounds compared with only 378 pounds per cow in September, 1951, and a 6 percent improvement in pasture conditions over last year.

Information gained from authoritative sources indicates a trend toward continued increase in the percentage of herds bred for fall freshening. Land seeded for temporary pastures this fall will probably exceed any previous year.

Tarheel farmers took in more than three times as much in cash receipts during 1951 as they did in 1941, despite the fact that government payments to farmers during 1951 were at one of their lowest levels since the program started in 1933.

FEED PRICES PAID BY FARMERS OCTOBER 15, 1952
WITH COMPARISONS

FEED PER HUNDREDWEIGHT	NORTH CAROLINA		UNITED STATES	
	SEPT. 15 1952	OCT. 15 1952	SEPT. 15 1952	OCT. 15 1952
	DOLLARS			
MIXED DAIRY FEED UNDER 29% PROTEIN.				
ALL.....	4.50	4.45	4.48	4.42
16% PROTEIN.....	4.30	4.25	4.37	4.31
18% PROTEIN.....	4.45	4.45	4.50	4.45
20% PROTEIN.....	4.80	4.70	4.63	4.55
29% PROTEIN.....	5.90	5.70	5.73	5.58
HIGH PROTEIN FEEDS				
LINSEED MEAL.....	-	-	5.43	5.44
SOYBEAN MEAL.....	5.50	5.50	6.08	5.80
COTTONSEED MEAL.....	4.70	4.65	5.33	5.25
MEAT SCRAP.....	6.70	6.60	6.73	6.64
GRAIN BY-PRODUCTS				
BRAN.....	4.10	4.10	3.77	3.71
MIDDINGS.....	4.30	4.30	3.96	3.90
CORN MEAL.....	4.90	4.95	4.34	4.26
CORN GLUTEN.....	-	-	4.25	4.23
POULTRY FEED				
LAYING MASH.....	5.60	5.50	5.35	5.27
SCRATCH GRAIN.....	4.80	4.75	4.65	4.60

FARM REPORT

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NOVEMBER 6, 1952

FARM REPORT

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COTTON GINNED PRIOR TO OCTOBER 1 IN NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY	NO. RUNNING BALES *	
	1952	1951
STATE TOTAL	145,513	178,597
ANSON	7,393	10,216
BERTIE	1,521	817
BLADEN	720	817
CABARRUS	1,185	1,942
CATAWBA	815	1,065
CHOWAN	1,323	781
CLEVELAND	15,755	19,486
CUMBERLAND	5,052	5,606
DUPLIN	1,601	1,665
EDGEcombe	2,219	2,090
FRANKLIN	611	1,310
GASTON	445	378
GATES	1,028	332
GREENE	676	651
HALIFAX	6,024	4,068
HARNETT	7,941	9,751
HERTFORD	1,686	918
HOKE	4,470	5,656
IREDELL	2,159	2,431
JOHNSTON	4,861	9,779
LEE	501	795
LENOIR	875	686
LINCOLN	3,733	3,731
MARTIN	360	310
MECKLENBURG	2,691	3,810
NASH	1,896	2,751
NORTHAMPTON	10,114	6,951
PERQUIMANS	748	(1)
PITT	1,788	2,041
POLK	764	226
RICHMOND	1,287	2,329
ROBESON	11,682	22,824
ROWAN	1,192	1,934
RUTHERFORD	3,254	1,552
SAMPSON	7,573	10,315
SCOTLAND	7,301	12,286
STANLY	1,098	1,152
UNION	6,541	7,318
WAKE	790	1,597
WARREN	536	745
WAYNE	5,641	6,443
WILSON	3,096	4,210
ALL OTHER	4,567	4,832

* Linters not included.
(1) Included in "All Other".

Tarheel farm families consumed \$138,-
662,000 worth of their own products during
1951 as compared with \$84,349,000 worth
during 1941. Approximately two thirds of
the 1951 consumption was livestock and
livestock products--the remainder coming
from crops.

NORTH CAROLINA & UNITED STATES LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER SEPTEMBER 1951-52*

SPECIES	NORTH CAROLINA				UNITED STATES			
	NUMBER SLAUGHTERED		TOTAL LIVEWEIGHT		NUMBER SLAUGHTERED		TOTAL LIVEWEIGHT	
	1951 a/	1952	1951 a/	1952	1951 a/	1952	1951 a/	1952
	THOUS. HEAD		THOUS. POUNDS		THOUS. HEAD		THOUS. POUNDS	
CATTLE..	10.6	10.9	8,123	8,238	1,372.8	1,650.7	1,291,633	1,547,818
CALVES..	3.6	4.4	624	776	665.8	820.7	156,833	202,810
SHEEP & LAMBS..	.1	.2	10	14	942.6	1,387.8	88,333	126,852
HOGS....	53.0	57.0	10,952	11,164	5,472.9	5,480.7	1,269,939	1,267,225

a/ Revised * Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other wholesale and retail slaughters, excludes farm slaughter.

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER SHOWS 2.5 PER CENT INCREASE

North Carolina's commercial slaughter of meat animals totaled 20,192,000 pounds liveweight for the month of September. This was an increase of 2.5 percent over September 1951, and 3 percent over last August when slaughter reached its highest peak since October, 1951. Cattle slaughter, which was up 9 percent from the previous month, accounted for most of this increase over August.

Calves slaughtered totaled 776,000 pounds liveweight, a decrease of 7 per-

cent below a month ago, but an increase of 24 percent over September of last year. The slaughter of mutton and lamb was greater than a year ago, but there was less than 1 percent increase in the total liveweight of hogs slaughtered.

A total of 72,500 head of meat animals was slaughtered during September, which was 8 percent more than the total head slaughtered in September, 1951 and 2 percent more than the number slaughtered during the previous month.

N. C. FARM WAGE RATES

(Continued)

The average hourly rate in the Tar Heel State is 59 cents -- compared with 55 cents in October of 1951.

For the Nation as a whole, labor costs are up 5 percent over 1951, with the per-day average (without room and board) standing at \$5.60. Wages in the individual states range from the low of \$3.80 per day in South Carolina to a high of \$9.50 per day in Idaho. Only

eight states had an average of less than \$5 per day when the reports were tallied as of October 1.

Workers paid by the hour without board or room are receiving an average throughout the Nation of 76 cents, but they are averaging \$1 or more per hour in 19 individual states -- mainly in the West North Central, Mountain, and Pacific regions and southern New England.